GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3270
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2002
MID-DAY MEAL SCHEME
BISHNU PADA RAY;C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF;DALPAT SINGH PARASTE;SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to provide financial assistance to cover the cost for preparing cooked meal to the States for implementing the mid-day meal scheme during the 10th Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, alongwith the procedure for diverting funds in favour of the States;

(c) whether there have been complaints that some States are not properly implementing the mid-day meal schemes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a)&(b): The Central Government is already providing foodgrains, free of cost, to the State implementing agencies and also reimbursing admissible transportation charges based on which States/UTs are expected to provide meals to the children. There is no proposal at present to provide additional funds to States/UTs.

(c) &(d): Only the States/UTs namely Chattisgarh, Gujarat, Kerala, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu and Pondicherry are implementing cooked meal programme across the State/UT. Orissa is implementing cooked meal programme in rural areas of Bolangiri, Kalahandi, Koraput, Malkangiri, Nawapara, Nawarangpur, Rayagada, Sonepur & Boudh districts and in Integrated Tribal Development Authority (ITDA) blocks, Karnataka in 7 educational backward districts and Madhya

Pradesh in Tribal Blocks, in Delhi ready to eat food is being distributed. Other States/UTs are distributing foodgrains under the scheme. Paucity of funds have been cited as the main reason for not switching over to cooked meals programme. The Government has been constantly urging the States/UTs to provide cooked meal under the programme in accordance with the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.